

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /167 W

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R 041858 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9829

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, FR

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF FRENCH OFFICIALS ON KISSINGER SPEECH AND

PRESIDENT'S TRADE MESSAGE

MOSCOW FOR KISSINGER

1. BERNARD, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT POMPIDOU, STRESING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY AND NOT FOR THE PRESIDENT, HAS GIVEN US HIS VIEWS ON KISSINGER SPEECH.

2. BERNARD SAID THE SPEECH HAD BOTH GOOD AND BAD ELEMENTS IN IT. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, IT SHOWED A GENUINE U. S. INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING A NEW BASIS FOR POLITICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN
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THE U. S. AND EUROPE. ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE, HE SAID THE SPEECH WAS VERY REMINISCENT OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S SPEECH IN 1962 OR 1963 (PRESUMABLY THE JULY 4, 1962, INTERDEPENDENCE SPEECH IN PHILADELPHIA, IN WHICH HE SET FORTH HIS VIEWS ON THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY. BERNARD IMPLIED THAT THIS APPARENT ATTEMPT TO REVIVE A CONCEPTION OF ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIPS WHICH WAS NOW OUTDATED RUBBED THE FRENCH THE WRONG WAY. BERNARD SAID HE ALSO TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE SUGGESTION THAT EUROPE HAD ONLY REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. HE WAS ALSO CRITICAL OF SPEECH'S ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH LINKAGE BETWEEN TRADE, MONETARY, AND SECURITY QUESTIONS. FINALLY, HE WONDERED WHETHER WE REALLY BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR EUROPE AND THE U. S. TO DRAFT A NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER BETWEEN NOW AND THE TIME OF THE PRESIDENT'S PLANNED TRIP TO EUROPE IN THE FALL. WHO WAS GOING TO WORK ON THIS DRAFT? WHEN WOULD THEY BEGIN AND HOW WOULD THEY PROCEED? OR WERE WE JUST SENDING UP A TRIAL BALLOON?

3. RESPONDING TO BERNARD'S OBJECTIONS, WE POINTED OUT, FIRST, THAT THE U. S. WAS NOT TRYING TO PRESCRIBE ANY PARTICULAR FORMULA FOR THE ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP. ON THE CONTRARY, DR. KISSINGER WAS INVITING EUROPEAN VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT. WE ENVISAGED A FRANK AND CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE FROM WHICH WE HOPED A COMMON VIEW OF WHAT THIS RELATIONSHIP SHOULD BE IN THE FUTURE WOULD EMERGE. SECONDLY, WE SAID DR. KISSINGER HAD NOT INTENDED TO SUGGEST THAT EUROPE SHOULD HAVE ONLY REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. HE WAS MERELY DESCRIBING THE SITUATION AS IT WAS TODAY, A SITUATION IN WHICH, FOR REASONS WHICH WERE QUITE UNDERSTANDABLE, EUROPE WAS LARGELY PRE-OCCUPIED WITH THE PROCESS OF ENLARGING AND PERFECTING THE COMMUNITY. IF OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES WISHED TO ASSUME BROADER RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE WORLD, WE WOULD WELCOME THIS.

4. ON THE LINK BETWEEN POLITICAL, MILITARY, AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, WE POINTED OUT THAT DR. KISSINGER HAD SAID THAT THESE ISSUES ARE LINKED BY REALITY, NOT BY OUR CHOICE. IT WAS IMPORTANT TO BEAR IN MIND THAT HE HAD GONE ON TO SAY THAT IT WAS NOT OUR PURPOSE TO TRADE THESE ISSUES OFF AGAINST EACH OTHER. ON THE QUESTION OF WORKING OUT A NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER, WE THOUGHT THIS WAS SOMETHING PRESIDENT POMPIDOU MIGHT WELL WANT TO RAISE WITH PRESIDENT NIXON. THE SPEECH WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT A DETAILED BLUEPRINT BUT A CALL FOR A JOINT EFFORT OF CREATIVITY WITH OUR ALLIES.

5. BERNARD ALSO EXPRESSED CONTINUED MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S TRADE MESSAGE. HE SAID THAT HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE BROAD POWERS THE PRESIDENT WAS SEEKING, NOT ONLY TO REDUCE BUT TO INCREASE PROTECTION. EVEN THOUGH ONE COULD

ARGUE THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD NO INTENTION OF USING THESE POWERS, THE FACT THAT HE HAD THEM WOULD CONSTITUTE A FORM OF PRESSURE ON HIS TRADING PARTNERS. IT WAS TRUE THAT THE EC ALSO HAD POWERS TO RAISE TARIFFS, BUT IT WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO GET THE MEMBERS OF THE NINE COUNTRIES TO AGREE TO USE THEM.

6. WE SAID WE BELIEVED THE EUROPEANS SHOULD BE GUIDED LESS BY THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE BILL THAN BY PRESIDENT NIXON'S REPEATED STATEMENTS OF STRONG COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE OF TRADE LIBERALIZATION. DECON DECEMBER 31, 1976. IRWIN

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